

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 765  
By Shepard

A RESOLUTION to recognize the many contributions of Dr. William M. Jackson of Dickson on the occasion of the bicentennial celebration of the founding of Dickson County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are particularly pleased to celebrate milestones in the histories of the counties of this state and to specially recognize the significant contributions of leading citizens of such counties and their communities to their growth and development; and

WHEREAS, one such progressive community is Dickson County, which has been celebrating its bicentennial, and one such outstanding citizen is the late Dr. William M. Jackson, a military medical officer, a prominent physician, hospital founder and owner, and cattle farmer and breeder; and

WHEREAS, William Jackson was born in a log cabin in South Pittsburg, the fifth of seven children of the late Laurence and Margaret Dietzen Jackson; his father worked in an iron foundry and his mother was a homemaker; and

WHEREAS, William hitch-hiked to Nashville at age 13 to enroll in Father Ryan High School, working to pay his tuition and expenses; upon his graduation in 1931 he enrolled in the University of Tennessee's two-year pre-medical program; and

WHEREAS, William Jackson enrolled in the University of Tennessee School of Medicine in Memphis in 1933 where he graduated in 1936, having worked his way through both college and medical school; and

WHEREAS, Dr. William Jackson interned at John Gaston Hospital in Memphis and went to New Madrid, Missouri to begin his medical practice, opening the New Madrid Clinic in 1938; his practice lasted only a year when he was called to active military service and completed further training at Cook County Hospital in Chicago before being assigned to active duty; and



WHEREAS, Dr. Jackson had entered military service in 1930 as a Private, and had been commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the Medical Reserves upon his graduation from medical school; on December 17, 1937 he was placed in the Regular Army as a First Lieutenant, climbing to Captain in 1941, Major in 1942, Lieutenant Colonel in 1944 and Colonel in 1946, ultimately retiring from active military service in 1947; and

WHEREAS, during his military career, Dr. William Jackson was Commanding Officer of the Medical Detachment with the Fifth Cavalry, was on the surgeon's staff of the Ninth Infantry, and was Assistant Surgeon at Fort Sam Houston station hospital in Texas; he then transferred to the Army Air Force and graduated as a flight surgeon from the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Field; and

WHEREAS, assigned to the Eighth Air Force in England, Colonel Jackson was awarded the Air Medal in 1943 for completing five combat missions over enemy occupied Europe in Flying Fortresses while serving as Executive Officer on the Central Medical Board of the Eighth Air Force; a member of General James Doolittle's special staff and serving as staff for the Eastern Command which was dispatched to Russia, he was awarded the Bronze Star for military operations against the enemy from March 21, 1944 to October 13, 1944; and

WHEREAS, following his return to the United States in 1944 to complete his active duty at Percy Jones General Hospital in Battle Creek, Michigan, Dr. Jackson retired from active duty in October 1947 and joined his brothers Dr. L.C. Jackson and Dr. Jimmy Jackson in practice at the Clinic in Dickson; and

WHEREAS, having grown the practice and expanded the clinic to 25 beds, in 1956 the brothers purchased property from Mrs. Doye Myatt Goodrum and Mrs. Otis Larkins on Highway 70 East and erected Goodlark Hospital which opened on April 8, 1958 with 58 beds, surgery, labor and delivery, nursery, laboratory and radiology services; and

WHEREAS, Dr. William Jackson served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees from the time of his brother L.C.'s retirement in the mid 1960's until his death in 1981; Dr. William Jackson oversaw Goodlark's expansions in 1962 and 1973, and its merger with Dickson General Hospital in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Dr. William Jackson and Dr. Jimmy Jackson, along with other physicians, formed the Jackson Clinic Professional Association in 1969 that grew to become one of the largest independent practices in Tennessee; on his Jackson Farms he found time to raise Limousin and Santa Gertrudis cattle, the latter developed on the King Ranch in Texas and well suited to withstand hot climates and insect pests; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Dr. Jackson worked on behalf of veterans, and was active politically behind the scenes at all levels of government, supporting school, community, political and church activities; he provided free medical care to the immediate family of members of the armed forces serving in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Dr. William and Margaret Jackson were the proud parents of Anne, Sheila, Maggie, Susan, Jane, Andy, Maury and Jenny; and

WHEREAS, Dr. William Jackson's long and outstanding contributions to the practice of medicine and service to his community are worthy of our deep appreciation and have clearly helped make the City of Dickson and Dickson County what they are today; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the citizens of Dickson County in celebrating their bicentennial and in specially honoring the stellar contributions of Dr. William M. Jackson to the growth and prosperity of Dickson County and to the admirable quality of life enjoyed by its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to family members of Dr. William M. Jackson with this final clause omitted from such copy.